

*VMA Verkmenntaskólinn á Akureyri  
(Akureyri Vocational College)  
Akureyri, Iceland  
1300 students, age 16 – 20 and older*

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# Our institute is proud of...

1. The use of data about the progress of students to guide changes in curriculum and teaching.

Motivation:

- Students are indiv. diff.
- Theory does not always have answers.
- Data supports ideas people have about school leavers.

2. VMA has a carousel of introductory tasks in various workshops. Different non academic possibilities.

Motivation:

- Students tell they like school, first time in years.
- Vocational study is hard too.
- Can give students increased self esteem.

# One challenge that we meet is...

- The study line (general studies) is believed to be for losers. Students themselves think they are no good.

## Explanation:

- Almost same study for all up to tenth grade.
- Entrance by grades to “proper study” after 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- No certificates acknowledged for short study lines.